LIBRARY

CRICKLADE AND WOOTTON BASSETT

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH
LIBRARY

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R ' S R E P O R T

For the year ended 31st December, 1938.

With compliments

Wootton Bassett, Wilts.

June, 1939.

To - The Cricklade & Wootton Bassett Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Health, Housing and Sanitary condition of the District for the year 1938.

The Sanitary Officers under the authority of the Council are -

A Part time Medical Officer of Health.

A Senior whole time Sanitary Inspector, holding the Certificate of the R.S.I.J.B. and the Certificate of Inspector of Meat and other Food.

An Assistant whole time Inspector, holding the Certificate of the R.S.I.J.B. and the Certificate of Inspector of Meat and other Food.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area (acres)	46,618
Population	11,230
Number of Inhabited Houses	3,332
Number of Families or separate occupiers	3,357
Rateable Value	41,212
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ...	£169

Extracts from Vital Statistics

		Total	M	F
Live Births	(Legitimate	195	93	102
	(Illegitimate	4	2	2

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population: 17.72

Stillbirths	10	4	6

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births: 47.85

Deaths	151	71	80

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population: 13.45

Deaths from Puerperal causes -

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births
No.29 Puerperal sepsis	-	-
No. 30 Other Puerperal causes	3	15.08
Total ...	3	15.08

Death Rate of infants under one year of age -

All Infants per 1,000 live births	55.28
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	56.41
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	20
" " Measles (all ages)	-
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	-
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	-

Wootton Bassett, Wilts.

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An Assistant whole time Inspector, holding the Certificate of the R.S.I.J.B. and the Certificate of Inspector of Meat and other Food.

Statistics and Special Conditions of the Area

Area (acres)	46,618
Population	11,290
Number of Inhabited Houses	3,372
Number of Families or separate occupiers	3,357
Rateable Value	£1,212
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ...	£169

Extracts from Vital Statistics

	Total	M	F
Live Births (Legitimate	195	93	102
(Illegitimate	4	2	2
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population: 17.72			
Stillbirths	10	4	6
Rate per 1,000 total (live and stillbirths: 17.89			
Deaths	171	71	80
Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population: 15.45			

Deaths from Puerperal causes -

Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births
No. 29 Puerperal sepsis	-
No. 30 Other Puerperal causes	-
Total ...	15.08

Death Rate of infants under one year of age -

All Infants per 1,000 live births	55.28
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	56.44
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	20
" " Measles (all ages)	-
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	-
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	-

Causes of Deaths (Civilians only)

Cause of Death	Male	Female
All causes	71	80
Other digestive disorders ...	2	-
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	1	3
Puerperal sepsis	-	-
Other Puerperal Diseases ...	-	3
Premature Births, etc. ...	5	6
Senility	1	2
Suicide	5	-
Other violence	2	-
Other defined diseases ...	6	4
Ill defined or not known ...		1
Diarrhoea	-	-
Diabetes	1	3
Cerebral Haemorrhage	8	8
Heart Disease	18	26
Aneurism	-	1
Other circulatory diseases ...	2	3
Bronchitis	2	5
Pneumonia, all forms	4	-
Other respiratory diseases ...	1	1
Peptic ulcer	1	-
Diarrhoea under 2 years ...	-	-
Appendicitis	-	1
Influenza	1	-
Respiratory Tuberculosis ...	1	1
General Paralysis of the Insane & Tabes	2	-
Cancer	8	12

Total deaths 151 Rate per 1,000 13.45

No comment is called for, but I should like to point out that no deaths occurred from Infectious notifiable Disease other than Tuberculosis. There were no deaths from Puerperal Sepsis and no deaths from Diarrhoea under 2 years of age, the great majority being classified as dying from Heart Disease.

Infantile Mortality

There were 11 deaths of children under one year of age.

Rate per 1,000 births 55.28

Births

199 live births were registered during the year, of which 95 were males and 104 females. Of this number 4 were illegitimate.

There were 10 still births, 9 legitimate and 1 illegitimate.

Birth rate 17.72

General provision of Health Services for the Area

Hospitals Provided or subsidised by the Local Authority or by the County Council.

A (i) Fever. All cases of Infectious Disease requiring removal to Hospital are sent to Gorse Hill Hospital, Swindon, under arrangement with the Swindon Borough Council.

Causes of Death (Civilians only)

Causes of Death	Male	Female
All causes	71	80
Other digestive disorders ...	2	-
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	1	3
Puerperal sepsis	-	-
Other Puerperal Diseases ...	-	-
Premature Birth, etc. ...	1	2
Senility	-	-
Suicide	-	-
Other violence	-	-
Other defined diseases ...	6	4
Ill defined or not known ...	-	1
Diarrhoea	-	-
Diabetes	1	-
Cerebral Haemorrhage	8	8
Heart Disease	18	20
Aneurism	1	-
Other circulatory diseases ...	2	2
Bronchitis	2	3
Pneumonia, all forms	4	1
Other respiratory diseases ...	1	1
Peptic ulcer	1	-
Diarrhoea under 2 years ...	-	-
Appendicitis	-	1
Influenza	1	-
Respiratory Tuberculosis ...	1	1
General Paralysis of the Insane & Tabes	2	-
Cancer	8	12

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Hospitals Provided or subsidised by the Local Authority or by the County Council.

A (1) Fever. All cases of Infectious Disease requiring removal to Hospital are sent to Corse Hill Hospital, Swindon, under arrangement with the Swindon Borough Council.

(ii) Smallpox. Cases of this disease are removed to the County Smallpox Hospital at Ogbourne, near Marlborough.

B. (i) Tuberculosis: (ii) Maternity: (iii) Children: (iv) Other. No Hospital or Institution for treatment of the above diseases and conditions is situate in the district, but cases of Tuberculosis are treated at the County Council's Sanatoria at Winsley and Harnwood. Maternity cases requiring Institutional treatment are sent under the County Council to the Maternity Hospital at Swindon.

C. General. None in the District, medical and surgical cases being sent principally to the Victoria Hospital, Swindon, the G.W.R.Medical Fund Hospital, Swindon, the Hospital at Savernake, Marlborough, or that at Cirencester.

D. The County Council Home at Marlborough for convalescent, delicate, and poorly-developed children, continues to be of great benefit to many children in the District.

Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children, is available, when necessary, at the Public Assistance Infirmary.

Ambulance Facilities

(a) For cases of Infectious Disease are provided by the Swindon Borough Council.

(b) Other cases. No ambulance is available in the District, but one can be obtained at any time from the Borough of Swindon.

Clinic and Treatment Centres.

There are none of these in the District, but Clinics for Maternity, Child Welfare, Tuberculosis, Orthopaedics and Venereal Disease are provided by the County Council at Swindon. The services of a Consultant in ante-natal and maternity cases are available, when required, at the patients own homes.

Nursing Arrangements

No arrangements exist for the provision of general nursing or for the nursing of Infectious Disease in the area, other than that provided by the District Nurses.

Midwives

There are none employed or subsidised by the Local Authority. There are 8 practising Midwives in the District. Six of them are employed by District Nursing Associations, all of which are subsidised by the County Council.

There is no District Nurse at present resident in Wootton Bassett. This I consider to be necessary, and it is to be regretted that this township cannot or will not support a District Nursing Association.

Laboratory work

Pathological and bacteriological examinations are carried out at the Greville Laboratory, the General Infirmary, Salisbury, the cost being defrayed by the County Council.

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Prevalence of Infectious and other Diseases

The number of reported cases has again been small, 4 cases only of Scarlatina and 4 of Diphtheria being notified. There were 22 reported cases of Pneumonia, and 3 of Puerperal Pyrexia.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1938.

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	4	4	-
Diphtheria	4	4	-
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	-	-	-
Puerperal Fever	1	1	-
Pneumonia	22	3	4
Erysipelas	4	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1	-
	37	13	4

Tuberculosis

12 cases of this disease were notified during the year. Of these 7 were of the Pulmonary type. There were 2 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis and none from other Tuberculosis.

Age Periods	New cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 1								
1 - 5	2							
5 - 10								
10 - 15		1						
15 - 20								
20 - 25		1				1		
25 - 35	1	1						
35 - 45		1						
45 - 55		1				1		
55 - 65								
65 upwards		1						
Totals:	3	6				2		

Water

Curtailment of the public supplies at Wootton Bassett and Purton was necessary from June 15th to December 17th in Wootton Bassett, and from the latter end of August to early part of September in Purton. The supplementary supplies at these places were again made use of. No shortage was reported from other parts of the district. The quality of the public supplies has, on the whole, remained satisfactory.

Work has gone steadily forward throughout the year on the Comprehensive Water Scheme, and the supply should become available about September of this year.

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Diphtheria	4	4	-
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	-	-	-
Puerperal Fever	1	1	-
Pneumonia	22	3	4
Erysipelas	4	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	1	-
	37	13	4

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	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 1								
1 - 5	2							
5 - 10								
10 - 15		1						
15 - 20								
20 - 25		1				1		
25 - 35	1	1						
35 - 45		1						
45 - 55		1				1		
55 - 65								
65 upwards		1						
Totals	3	6				2		

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Work has gone steadily forward throughout the year on the Comprehensive Water Scheme, and the supply should become available about September of this year.

Rivers and Streams

No complaints were received as to pollution of rivers and streams during the year.

Drainage and Sewerage

The existing works at Cricklade, Purton and Wootton Bassett are in good condition and working satisfactorily.

Public Cleansing

This has been carried out by direct labour from the commencment of the year, and has proved highly satisfactory in every respect. No complaints have been received from any part of the District, except for the presence of rats at the tip at Purton. Measures were at once taken to deal with this nuisance.

Housing

Details of work carried out under this heading are appended in your Sanitary Inspector's report.

Milk

Your Sanitary Inspectors have carried out 217 inspections during the year. There is no doubt a great improvement in the condition of the cowsheds and milking arrangements generally.

Meat

There are 7 registered and 10 licensed Slaughterhouses, and 2 Knackers yards, in the District.

792 inspections were carried out under the Meat Regulations, and 3 tons 12 cwts. of meat were found unfit for human consumption, and condemned. Your Sanitary Inspector's report records the details of these.

Legislation in force

Part 111 of The Public Health Amendment Act, 1890. The Sections not repealed by The Public Health Act, 1936.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, Sections 33, 53, 54 and 95.

Public Health Act, 1925, Sections 23 and 26.

Bye-Laws with respect to Slaughterhouses, 1924 and 1929.

Building Bye-Laws, 1938.

Bye-Laws in respect of Tents, Vans, Sheds and similar Structures, 1930 and 1936.

Bye-Laws with respect to Lydiard Plain, 1914 and 1936.

In conclusion, I should like to acknowledge the services rendered by your Sanitary Inspector, for the work he has carried out during the year. This grows continually in amount, and it is due in great part to his efficiency and tact that the sanitary condition of the District is at its present high level.

I have the honour to remain, Ladies & Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

JOHN N. WATSON.

Medical Officer of Health.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Council Offices,
Wootton Bassett.

May, 1939.

Dr.J.N.Watson, Medical Officer of Health, Cricklade and Wootton Bassett Rural District Council.

Sir,

I beg to submit my Annual Report dealing with the work carried out in the Sanitary Department during the year ended 31st December, 1938.

Housing

Number of new houses erected during the year -

(a) By the Local Authority 18
(b) By other bodies or persons 41

1. Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the year -

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 104

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 405

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under The Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 & 1932 100

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 398

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 4

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 64

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 44

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:-

(1) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(a) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 7

(b) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices -

(i) By owners 4

(ii) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ... Nil

(2) Proceedings under Public Health Acts -

(a) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied Nil

(b) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices -

(i) By Owners ... ... Nil

(ii) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ... Nil

(3) Proceedings under Sections 11 & 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(a) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 2

(b) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders Nil

(c) Number of undertakings given not to re-let houses until made fit 2

(4) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(a) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made Nil

(b) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... ... Nil

4. <u>Housing Act, 1936, Part IV - Overcrowding</u>.

(1) (a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 9

(b) Number of families dwelling therein 9

(c) Number of persons dwelling therein 62

(2) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year 15

(3) (a) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 19

(b) Number of persons concerned in such cases 122

(4) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... ... None

Number of houses measured and recorded	6
" " visits made re overcrowding	230
" " overcrowded houses discovered	15

4. (5) Other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions -

During the year, overcrowding has been abated in the following manner -

Overcrowded families vacated their houses	2
" family provided with additional accommodation by converting two houses into one	1
" case abated by a reduction in the number of inmates ...	1
" family provided with an additional room	1
" cases abated by removal to Council Houses	14
	19

Number of overcrowded houses discovered during the year 1938	15
Add number of overcrowded houses remaining from the year 1937	13
Total number of overcrowded houses existing in the year 1938	28
Less number of overcrowded cases abated in the year 1938	19
Number of overcrowded houses existing on 31st December, 1938	9
Number of overcrowded houses under private ownership	8
Number of overcrowded houses owned by the Local Authority	1

Only 2 cases of overcrowding occurred in Council houses during the year, and of these, 1 was abated by removal to a larger Council house.

Tabular Summary of matters dealt with under The Public Health and Housing Acts.

Number of defective chimney stacks rebuilt	1
" " " " " pointed	7
" " dwellinghouse roofs repaired	15
" " " " rethatched	2
" " " at which new eave troughing has been fixed	12
" " dwellinghouses at which new rainwater pipes have been fixed	7
" " dwellinghouses where damp walls have been cement rendered externally	3
" " dwellinghouses where damp walls have been rendered internally ...	9
" " dwellinghouses where damp walls have been pointed	5
" " dilapidated walls of dwellinghouses rebuilt	2
" " new windows (complete) fixed at dwellinghouses	34
" " new casements hung	2
" " defective windows repaired ...	18
" " windows to which sashcords were hung	7

No. of defective ceilings stripped and ceiled with plasterboard	18
No. of defective ceilings replastered	16
" " walls replastered	23
" " rooms lined with wallboard	1
" " decayed board floors and joists taken up and renewed	16
" " defective floors repaired ...	18
" " rooms where new skirting has been fixed	4
" " concrete floors laid in living rooms	15
" " " " " " sculleries	11
" " " " " " larders	9
" " " " " " washhouses	7
" " new doors and frames fixed at dwelling-houses	10
" " defective doors and frames repaired	4
" " staircases repaired	5
" " handrails fixed to staircases	11
" " new larders built	2
" " larders ventilated by provision of new windows	3
" " broken cottage ranges renewed	12
" " new register grates fixed	6
" " defective back walls rebuilt	2
" " new washhouses built ...	1
" " washing coppers erected	3
" " defective washing coppers repaired	8
" " back yards paved with concrete	2
" " new w.c.'s erected	4
" " pail closets built	7
" " privies converted to w.c.'s	2
" " concrete floors laid in pail closets	7
" " new drains laid to undrained houses	14
" " defective drains taken up and new drains laid	2
" " new septic tanks built ...	1
" " " cesspits built	6
" " uncovered cesspits provided with new C.I. airtight covers	2
" " new traps fixed	12
" " " inspection chambers built	7
" " " interceptor chambers built	3
" " " ventilation pipes fixed	2
" " " sinks fixed	4
" " " urinals erected	2
" " foul cesspits cleansed ...	4
" " " ditches "	4
" " choked drains cleansed ...	18
" " offensive accumlations removed	4
" " dwellinghouses at which light and ventilation have been improved	8
" " nuisances due to overcrowding, abated	19

Nuisances. Public Health Acts 1875 and 1936.

No. of nuisances discovered	35
" " " abated	31
" " inspections made	103

Water Supplies

Number of water samples taken and submitted for analysis:-

	Public Supplies	Private Supplies	Total
Chemical	-	2	2
Bacteriological	46	5	51
Chemical and partial bacteriological	-	12	12
			65

Details of the above samples are as follows:-

	Unfit for drinking purposes.	Fit for drinking purposes.
Chemical analysis		
Private ~~Public~~ Supplies -		
Lydiard Tregoze	-	1
Purton	-	1
		2
Bacteriological analysis		
Public Supplies -		
Ashton Keynes	-	2
Broad Town well	-	3
Cricklade	8	17
Clyffe Pypard Heading	-	2
Purton - Heading	-	2
Pavenhill	-	2
Peak	1	1
Patney	1	4
Thornhill	3	-
	13	33
Private Supplies -		
Latton	-	1
Lyneham	1	-
Purton	1	2
	2	3
Chemical and partial Bacteriological analysis		
Private Supplies -		
Lyneham	1	-
Lydiard Millicent	2	-
Lydiard Tregoze	1	2
Latton	1	-
Marston Maisey	2	1
Purton	1	-
Wootton Bassett	-	1
	8	4

Number of houses connected to the public water main as the result of notices served 1

Of the houses where the water was found to be unfit for drinking purposes, only one was on the line of water main.

It will be noticed that a number of samples taken from Public Supplies are shown under the heading "unfit for drinking purposes", but although placed under this heading, the pollution was not serious. A chlorination plant was installed at Cricklade, and the water was chlorinated at the source, but slight contamination was again caused when the water passed through the sand filters. The filters were treated with Chloros.

The one unsuitable sample taken at Patney was analysed before this supply was brought into use. Chlorination was

introduced, and the succeeding samples showed the water to be practically sterile. This supply is only used to augment the supply to Wootton Bassett during the summer.

The sample taken at The Peak, Purton, was analysed in October, and as succeeding samples are showing the water to be suitable for drinking purposes and also that this source will be abandoned when the Comprehensive Water Scheme is brought into use, no action is needed.

The Thornhill supply is only a small scheme providing water for 15 houses. The well has been rendered with "Pudlo" cement on the interior faces of the walls, so as to make the walls impervious, and the walls have been built up above ground level, battered off with concrete and a new cover fixed.

The Broad Town well had to be used for augmenting the water supply from June to November. All water taken from this well was chlorinated, the analyses showing the water to be nearly sterile.

The yields from the sources at Purton and Wootton Bassett were insufficient during a part of the year, and the insufficiency was made up by water pumped from the G.W.R. main at Purton and the United Dairies main at Wootton Bassett.

It was found necessary to curtail the supplies, and at Wootton Bassett from June 15th to August 7th, a 14 hours per day supply was given, and from August 8th to October 14th, an 8 hours supply. From October 15th the supply was increased to 14 hours daily, curtailment being discontinued on December 17th. The water supply at Purton was curtailed on August 15th for a period of six weeks, but the curtailment was for a part of the parish only, the water being turned off from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m.

There was no shortage of water at the sources supplying Ashton Keynes, Cricklade and Thornhill.

Samples for bacteriological analysis have been taken fairly frequently from the Cricklade supply, and from July regular sampling at least monthly was carried out at Cricklade, and quarterly at all other public water supplies.

Number of visits made re water supplies -

In connection with public supplies	430
" " " private "	139
	569

Inspection and supervision of Food.

Milk.

No. of Dairies on the Register ...	334
" " inspections	217
" " formal notices served under the Milk and Dairies Order re structural alterations ...	4
" " informal notices served re structural alterations ...	23
" " informal notices served re cleanliness	17
" " samples of retail milk taken and submitted for analysis re cleanliness	41

No. of retail milk samples which failed either B.Coli or Methylene Blue tests 22
" " Pasteurised Milk samples taken 4
" " " " " failing to pass test ... ... nil

The number of inspections made under the Milk and Dairies Order are not as many as in the previous year. This was due to outbreaks of Foot and Mouth Disease in this District and surrounding Districts, it being considered wise to suspend all visits to farms and dairies whilst the disease was prevalent in the County.

The general standard of cleanliness in the production of milk, and the structural conditions of cowsheds, have improved greatly during the year.

Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 & 1938

No. of Licensed Producers of Tuberculin Tested Milk 7
" of Licensed Producers of Accredited Milk 56
" " Pasteurisers Licenses issued ... 2

There are two pasteurising plants in the District, and these were found to be working satisfactorily, periodical inspections having been made.

Percentage of Licensed Producers of Tuberculin Tested Milk in the District 2.10
" " Licensed Producers of Accredited Milk in the District 16.77

Meat

No. of Slaughterhouses on Register -

Registered 7 Licensed 10 Total 17

No. of visits made to Slaughterhouses and shops and inspections made under The Public Health (Meat) Regulations 792

Carcases inspected and condemned

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Pigs	Sheep and Lambs	Total
No. of animals killed	259	166	180	661	1588	2854
No. of carcases inspected	257	164	176	632	1546	2775
Percentage of carcases inspected	99.23	98.80	97.78	95.61	97.36	97.23
All diseases except Tuberculosis.						
Whole carcases condemned		3	4	9	3	19
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	15	11	2	55	26	109

Carcases Inspected and Condemned (Cont'd).

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Pigs	Sheep and Lambs	Total
All diseases except Tuberculosis						
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	5.84	8.54	3.41	10.13	1.88	4.61
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcases condemned	2	-	1	1	-	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	44	44	2	56	-	146
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with Tuberculosis	17.90	26.83	1.70	9.02	-	5.41

Details and weight of condemned meat

	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Beef	2	2	3	5
Veal		2	1	19
Bacon and Pork		11	0	21
Mutton and Lamb			3	22
Offal		14	1	24
	3	11	3	7

	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	Percentage of the total of condemned meat.
Condemned - diseases other than Tuberculosis	1	5	1	6	35.24
Condemned - Tuberculosis	2	6	2	1	64.76

All slaughtering throughout the District has been carried on in a satisfactory manner. Practically all the inspection of meat has been post-mortem, although wherever possible, an ante-mortem inspection has been made.

Knacker Yards

No. on Register	2
" of inspections made	2

Factories

No. of Factories on Register ...	58
" " inspections made	47
" " notices served	11
" " " complied with ...	10

The No. of Factories is made up as follows:-

Bakehouses	15
Blacksmiths Shops	8
Brickworks	1
Carpenters and Builders ...	10
Cheese, Dried and Condensed Milk Manufacturers	2
Egg Factories	2
Engineering Works	2
Glove Factories	2
Implement Repair Shops ...	1
Joinery Works	1
Motor and cycle repair shops	7
Milliners	1
Printing Works	2
Rope Works	1
Sawmills	2
Wood Turnery	1
	58

Infectious Diseases

No. of Infectious cases notified	8
" " rooms disinfected	8
" " visits	19

The No. of cases of infectious disease which have been notified is remarkably low. The total cases notified in 1937 was the lowest since 1913, and the total this year is even lower. (Figures are not available for the years previous to 1913).

Drainage and Sewerage

The more thickly populated parts of the parishes of Cricklade, Wootton Bassett, and Purton are served by sewers. All the houses within the statutory distance of a sewer at Wootton Bassett have water closets, and nearly all the houses in the parishes of Cricklade and Purton which are within such distance also have water closets. The remainder of the district has pail closets serving the houses, excepting the larger residences, which have water closets and are drained to cesspits, septic tanks or small filter beds.

All the sewers have been working satisfactorily, and I have received no complaints regarding the efficiency of the sewage works at Cricklade, Purton and Wootton Bassett.

No. of visits to Sewage Works 33

Public Cleansing

On January 2nd the work of scavenging by Contract was discontinued and refuse collection was carried out by direct labour, a new "Dennis" 7 cub. yard refuse lorry having been purchased for the purpose. I am very satisfied with the manner in which the work has been carried out throughout the year, as previously dust and paper were being blown about from the Contractor's open lorry, and complaints were being made of non-collection of refuse, whilst during this year no complaints were received of

refuse not being collected, and owing to the proper type of lorry being used, dust and paper were prevented from being blown about.

Total cost of Refuse Collection for year ended 31st December, 1938	...	...	£342. 17s. 2d
Running cost per mile	...	...	6.57d
Miles per gallon	...	...	7.33

Scavenging and Refuse Disposal

Refuse is collected from the more thickly populated parts of Ashton Keynes, Cricklade and Wootton Bassett once per week, and from the remaining parts of the District there is a collection of tins, bottles, etc. once every two months.

Refuse is deposited at four tips, situated in the parishes of Ashton Keynes, Cricklade, Purton and Wootton Bassett, a modified system of "controlled tipping" being carried out at the first three parishes, and the only complaint received during the year was about rats infesting the Purton tip. The tips at Cricklade, Purton and Wootton Bassett are regularly treated with a "tip dressing".

No. of visits to refuse tips ... 70

Shops Acts.

There are 112 shops in the district, in the majority of which no assistants are employed. Most shops are heated by means of oil heaters.

Camping Sites

There are no camping sites in the district. Two applications for licences for camping sites were received during the year, but upon being informed that certain conditions would have to be complied with before such licences would be granted, the applicants proceeded no further in the matter.

Smoke Abatement

Complaints were received about the emission of smoke from an engine at a sawmills. The trouble was caused by excessive use of wood shavings as fuel, and it was necessary to serve a Statutory Notice before the nuisance could be stopped.

No. of smoke observations made 10

Swimming Baths and Pools

There are no swimming baths in the district, but a gravel pit situated at Latton is used as a swimming pool. A sample of the water in this pool was submitted for analysis and was passed as suitable and safe for bathing.

Disinfestation

One house was found to be infested by bugs and one house infested by fleas. The house infested by bugs was a Council house, and disinfestation was carried out by means of Lawes Block Disinfestators and also spraying with "Kilgercide". Thorough spraying with "Kilgercide" was the means employed in freeing the house of fleas.

No. of visits to verminous premises 4

Rats & Mice Destruction Act

The usual gratuitous issue of rat baits was again made during Rat Week and until the supply was exhausted. Posters were exhibited throughout the district, calling the inhabitants attention to the damage caused by rats, and informing them of the free supply of baits. The number of persons who applied for an issue of baits was rather disappointing. Although baits were laid frequently at the rubbish tips at Purton and Wootton Bassett, a complaint was made regarding the number of rats at the Purton tip at one period during the year. It was, therefore, decided to employ a rat catcher from October, for a period of one year, at a fee of £12, to deal with the rats at the Ashton Keynes, Purton, and Wootton Bassett tips, and also the Wootton Bassett Sewage Works which adjoins the tip. His first baiting was satisfactory, in fact it was highly successful at the Purton tip, and considering the time taken by a workman, the cost of baits, and comparison in results, I am of opinion that his employment means a saving of money to the Council. It is very rare that a rat is seen at the Cricklade refuse tip.

No. of visits for the purpose of poster exhibiting, and under the above Act	73

Petroleum Acts

No. of Licences issued to store Petroleum	27
" " " " " " Carbide	3
" " " " " " Petroleum and Carbide	9

Petroleum is stored in underground tanks at all storage places, excepting one.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

C.E.JAMES.

Sanitary Inspector.

Rats & Mice Destruction Act

The usual printing issue of rat bait was again made during Rat Week and until the supply was exhausted. Posters were exhibited throughout the district, calling the inhabitants attention to the damage caused by rats, and inviting them of the free supply of bait. The number of persons who applied for an issue of bait was rather disappointing. Although baits were laid frequently at the rubbish tips at Burton and Wootton Bassett, a complaint was made regarding the number of rats at the Burton tip at one period during the year. It was, therefore, decided to employ a rat catcher from October, for a period of one year, at a fee of £12, to deal with the rats at the Ashton Keynes, Burton, and Wootton Bassett tips, and also the Wootton Bassett Sewage Works which adjoins the tip. His first duties were satisfactory, in that it was largely successful at the Burton tip, and considering the time taken by a workman, the cost of baits, and occupation in results, I am of opinion that his employment means a saving of money to the Council. It is very sure that a rat is seen at the Cricklade refuse tip.

No. of visits for the purpose of poster exhibiting, and under the above Act 17

Petroleum Acts

No. of Licences issued to store Petroleum 27
" " " " " " Carbide 3
" " " " " " Petroleum and Carbide 2

Petroleum is stored in underground tanks at all storage places, excepting one.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

O.E.JAMES.

Sanitary Inspector.